



THOMAS L. GARTHWAITE, M.D.
Director and Chief Medical Officer

FRED LEAF
Chief Operating Officer

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
313 N. Figueroa, Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 240-8101

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Gloria Molina
First District

Yvonne Brathwaite Burke
Second District

Zev Yaroslavsky
Third District

Don Knabe
Fourth District

Michael D. Antonovich
Fifth District

February 17, 2005

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**APPROVE THE ACQUISITION OF A DIGITAL MAMMOGRAPHY
SYSTEM AND A HIGH DOSE RATE RADIOLOGY THERAPY
SYSTEM AT LAC+USC MEDICAL CENTER
(1st District) (3 Votes)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Find that the project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State Guidelines section 15301(a) and Class 1, Subsection (d) of the County of Los Angeles Revised Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987.
2. Authorize the purchase of a digital mammography system at a cost of \$537,000, and a high dose rate radiation therapy system at a cost of \$437,000, for a total cost of \$974,000, at LAC+USC Medical Center.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION:

In approving the recommended actions, your Board is authorizing the purchase of two major items of fixed asset equipment, a digital mammography system and a high dose rate radiation therapy system at LAC+USC Medical Center (LAC+USC). The equipment request complies with the County Equipment Policy, approved on October 16, 2001, which requires Board approval prior to a department's purchasing/financing equipment with a unit cost of \$250,000 or greater.

LAC+USC will use these new systems to support women's health and cancer treatment services. These systems will enhance healthcare delivery capacity and provide superior diagnostic and curative services for prevention and treatment of breast and cervical cancers.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

The estimated acquisition cost for the two major fixed assets totals \$974,000. Funding for this equipment is included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2004-05 Department of Health Services (DHS) Fixed Assets budget. A one-year warranty is included in the purchase of the systems.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:

On October 16, 2001, your Board approved the classification categories for fixed assets and new requirements for major fixed asset acquisitions whereby departments are required to obtain Board approval to purchase or finance equipment with a unit cost of \$250,000 or greater prior to the submission of requisitions to Purchasing.

The digital mammography system is used in diagnostic mammography by assisting the physician in diagnosing breast cancer in its early stages. Early detection is preferable to secondary or tertiary level treatment options which are more costly interventions. In addition, definitive early detection can result in improved cure levels.

Additional benefits from using digital mammography include increased patient workflow, quality of patient care, and better information management by replacing film with electronic images. Using electronic images will provide physicians with current and historical images which aids them in planning and providing the best course of treatment for the patient.

The high dose rate (HDR) system is required to deliver brachytherapy, which involves placing a sealed source of radiation adjacent to, or into, the tumor and withdrawing the radiation source after a precisely calculated period of time to deliver a targeted dose. Currently, patients are treated with low dose rate brachytherapy, which is not as efficient because patients must be treated in an inpatient setting. HDR treatment is provided on an outpatient basis. The HDR system will improve cancer treatment, service wait time, and patient outcomes.

The digital mammography and HDR systems will be transferred to the LAC+USC Replacement Facility when it is opened.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

This action meets the County's Strategic Plan Goal of Service Excellence by promoting best practices for patient care and the Goal of Fiscal Responsibility by investing in the public infrastructure.

Consistency with DHS System Redesign

This action meets the Department's strategic goal by improving the health care services provided by DHS and enhancing the health of the residents of Los Angeles County.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION:

The installation of this equipment is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State Guidelines section 15301(a) and Class 1, Subsection (d) of the County of Los Angeles Revised Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987. Under this categorical exemption, installation of equipment which may require interior and exterior alterations of a building involving such things as interior partitions, exterior parapets, placement of walls, veneer facings and installation of false or drop ceilings, plumbing and electrical conveyances and heating and refrigeration systems, etc. is exempt.

CONTRACTING PROCESS:

The acquisition of this equipment falls under the statutory authority of the ISD Purchasing Agent.

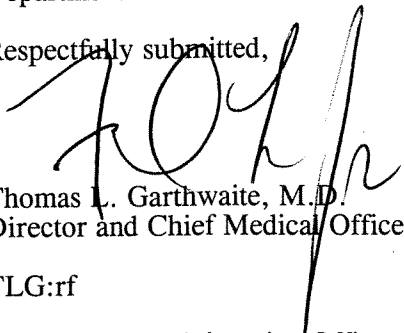
The Honorable Board of Supervisors
February 17, 2005
Page 3

IMPACT ON CURRENT PROGRAM SERVICES (OR PROJECTS):

This equipment will enhance care to patients at LAC+USC Medical Center.

Upon approval by the Board of Supervisors, the Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors is requested to return adopted copies of this letter to the Department of Health Services and Internal Services Department.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas L. Garthwaite, M.D.
Director and Chief Medical Officer

TLG:rf

c: Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Auditor-Controller
Internal Services Department

lac usc mammo equipment.rf.wpd